

## Outcomes of Applications for Disability Benefits

**Table 55.**

**Medical decisions at the hearing level or above, by year of application and program, 1992–2002**

Year	All decisions			Decisions on applications for Social Security only			Decisions on applications for both Social Security and SSI		
	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate <sup>a</sup> (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate <sup>a</sup> (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate <sup>a,b</sup> (percent)
<b>All disabled beneficiaries</b>									
1999	255,641	186,313	72.9	140,324	110,634	78.8	115,317	75,679	65.6
2000	265,565	195,070	73.5	145,579	115,556	79.4	119,986	79,514	66.3
2001	223,905	168,233	75.1	122,392	99,241	81.1	101,513	68,992	68.0
2002	83,090	64,691	77.9	47,843	40,115	83.8	35,247	24,576	69.7
<b>Workers</b>									
1992	275,863	201,359	73.0	131,624	105,371	80.1	144,239	95,988	66.5
1993	310,655	217,816	70.1	143,997	112,593	78.2	166,658	105,223	63.1
1994	323,604	220,553	68.2	156,455	119,309	76.3	167,149	101,244	60.6
1995	301,914	202,486	67.1	150,879	113,669	75.3	151,035	88,817	58.8
1996	300,075	204,158	68.0	155,388	116,039	74.7	144,687	88,119	60.9
1997	261,773	185,011	70.7	138,645	106,966	77.2	123,128	78,045	63.4
1998	246,681	177,595	72.0	132,670	104,007	78.4	114,011	73,588	64.5
1999	251,642	183,532	72.9	137,286	108,463	79.0	114,356	75,069	65.6
2000	261,502	192,245	73.5	142,494	113,350	79.5	119,008	78,895	66.3
2001	220,783	165,985	75.2	119,958	97,451	81.2	100,825	68,534	68.0
2002	81,966	63,843	77.9	46,917	39,402	84.0	35,049	24,441	69.7
<b>Widow(er)s</b>									
1999	2,894	2,215	76.5	2,234	1,733	77.6	660	482	73.0
2000	2,919	2,257	77.3	2,252	1,765	78.4	667	492	73.8
2001	2,245	1,799	80.1	1,795	1,447	80.6	450	352	78.2
2002	852	711	83.5	724	604	83.4	128	107	83.6
<b>Adult children</b>									
1999	1,105	566	51.2	804	438	54.5	301	128	42.5
2000	1,144	568	49.7	833	441	52.9	311	127	40.8
2001	877	449	51.2	639	343	53.7	238	106	44.5
2002	272	137	50.4	202	109	54.0	70	28	40.0

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Disability Research file, 100 percent data.

NOTES: Data are current through September 2003.

Because a number of applications remain pending for more recent years, the allowance rate will change over time.

Applications with a medical decision may be pending a final nonmedical decision or be subsequently denied for nonmedical reasons.

A revised process was introduced on October 1, 1999, in 10 states, under which initial denials could be appealed directly to the hearing level without a reconsideration.

Data for 1992–1998 are available for disabled workers only.

SSI = Supplemental Security Income.

a. Rate determined by dividing medical allowances by all medical decisions for that year.

b. Rate for Social Security portion only.

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